

SAN RAMON VALLEY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY



NEWSLETTER

P.O. Box 305
Diablo, CA 94528-0305

President: Millie Freitas
Editor: Betty Vail

Meetings: 10:00 a.m.
3rd Tuesday of month
(except August & December)
Golden State Rehabilitation
Hospital
7777 Norris Canyon Road
San Ramon, CA

Vol. XII No. 6

January 1997

THIS MONTH

Christine Rose is a Certified Genealogist, a Certified Genealogical Lecturer, a Fellow of the American Society of Genealogists, and the recipient of the 1987 Donald Lines Jacobus award for two genealogies. She will speak on THE PREPONDERANCE OF EVIDENCE.

LAST MONTH

Reported by Jane Steiner

At the November meeting Dusk Alyesworth, Accounts Manager from the San Ramon Kinko's copy Center, told how Kinko's equipment can help give your manuscripts a professional appearance.

Kinko's will run a sample of special pictures or pages, and they will even create a "proof set" of your entire master document for your approval.

One of the machines at San Ramon is a Docutech Printer — a high speed laser copier that can work digitally. Not too many copy centers have this expensive piece of equipment. Items can be scanned at 300 dpi (dots per inch) for editing. These items of digital input have 600 dpi output. Scanners have the ability to go to 1200 dpi. Don't have your pictures half-toned before taking them in; this machine does half-toning. Some other Kinko's centers that have the Docutech are Berkeley, San Rafael, and Walnut Creek.

Almost half of the Kinko's outlets have a Cyclone System, which allows digital printing from an electronic file in color or in black and white. Color copies start at \$1.49; more than 25 copies, \$.99; and over 100 copies, \$.89.

They have "Adobe Photo Shop" on their computers for touching up photos. This amazing software can take up to three years to learn to use well, but it is fairly easy to touch up a photograph. There is a \$10 processing fee for the first page in a file, and \$5 for additional pages. The software can handle up to 11" x 17" enlargements.

You can put many pictures on an 11" x 17" sheet for copying, but leave at least 3/8" margin along each edge. When copied, cut them apart and paste them on the page where you want them. One 11" x 17" sheet is \$2.98 on the color copier. They can be either black and white pictures or color copies. It is wise to have the pictures about the same intensity.

Colored photographs will fade in time, but colored prints in a book will last forever. If you have a lot of color work to be done, ask to talk to a color technician. These specialists can do amazing things.

Kinko's has a variety of bindings: velo-bind, spiral (plastic comb), coil, wire and thermal tape. The spiral, coil and wire are the only ones in which the book can be opened completely flat. The tape binding is double stapled under the tape which is applied by a heat process. It is the least expensive and can be used on documents up to one-half inch thick. The wire can only be used on documents that are fairly thin. Covers come in a variety of colors both in card stock or vinyl.

Kinko's have several computer stations with a variety of software: Claris Works, Corel Draw, Adobe Publisher, Page Maker, and Quark. Alyesworth recommended the last two. You can have one of their computer service people work with you; the charge is \$60 per hour.

If you have a project that is going to require time and help from the staff, avoid their busy
(Continued on page 45.)



JANUARY

SRVGS EVENTS

- 21 TUESDAY- 10:00 a.m. general meeting, 7777 Norris Canyon Rd., San Ramon. Christine Rose on THE PREPONDERANCE OF EVIDENCE.
28 TUESDAY- 9:00 a.m. Trip to Sutro Library. Details on page 46.

OTHER EVENTS

- 14 TUESDAY- 7:30 p.m. Congregation Beth Emek 1886 College Ave., Livermore. Livermore-Amador Gen. Soc. presents Tillie Calhoun on LIVERMORE HISTORY.
18 SATURDAY- 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m., Portuguese Family History seminar led by Rosemarie Cappadiccio. Mountain View Community Center, Regstroff St. Sponsored by the Santa Clara County Historical Society.
18 SATURDAY- 5:00 p.m. KTEH (Channel 54) the Ancestry series to begin. See page 51.
20-24 MONDAY-FRIDAY- Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy. TECHNOLOGY APPLIED: THE GENEALOGIST'S CRAFT will be held at the Plano Center in Plano, TX. For info write John V. Wylie, 2818 Landershire Lane, Garland, TX 75044 or call 214-495-4410.
25 SATURDAY- 7:00 p.m., 1200 Civic Center Drive, Fairfield, CA, Senior Center, Jeff Fannon on IRISH RESEARCH.



FEBRUARY

SRVGS EVENTS

- 4 TUESDAY- 10:00 a.m. Board Meeting at Fran Lloyd's. 210 Town & Country, Danville, CA. All members welcome.
18 TUESDAY- 10:00 a.m. General meeting, 7777 Norris Canyon Rd., San Ramon. Jim Tackitt on PHOTOGRAPHY - PAST AND PRESENT.
25 TUESDAY- 9:00 a.m. Trip to Calif. Genealogical Society, San Francisco.

OTHER EVENTS

- 8 SATURDAY- 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Commodore Sloat Chapter of DAR and the Family History Center will present TRACKING YOUR ANCESTORS at Noche Buena and Plumas Aves., Seaside, CA. For info call (408) 372-4445. \$25 with lunch; \$20 without.
12 WEDNESDAY- 10:00 a.m., at the Mormon Center, 4780 Lincoln Ave., Oakland, CA, East Bay Genealogical Society presents Bette Kot on HIRING A PROFESSIONAL GENEALOGIST.
12 WEDNESDAY- 7:30 p.m., Central School, Belmont, Marjann Soss on ANTIQUE SAMPLERS.
18 THURSDAY- 7:30 p.m. Community Meeting Room in the new Concord Police Station, 1350 Galindo Street, Concord, the Contra Costa Gen. Soc. "Show & Tell" meeting, ANCESTORS ON THE MOVE.
21-22 FRIDAY-SATURDAY New England Historical Genealogical Society seminar. The guest speaker, Henry Z Jones, author of several books on Palatine families in Ireland, Germany and New York. For info call Yolanda Pardo at (617) 536-5748, ex. 202.

OFFICERS to Contact

President: Millie Freitas 837-2483
Vice-Pres.: Irma Dotson 820-8344
Membership: Diana Hancock 820-1424
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Annual Dues: Individual \$15.00
Family: \$20.00

NEWSLETTER

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The newsletter is published each month except August and December.

COMING EVENTS

April 25-26 The California Genealogical Society will present its 12th Annual Family History Fair, THE GOLDEN GATEWAY TO YOUR ANCESTRY, at the Herbst Pavilion, Fort Mason Center, San Francisco, Friday noon to 8:00 p.m. and Saturday 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The keynote speaker will be John Colletta. The facility is a fifteen minute stroll from Fisherman's Wharf, has free parking and is close to public transportation. For more information call Mary-Lou Grossberg (415) 924-4936 or Kathy Beals (510) 527-1064.

May 7-10 The National Genealogical Society's annual conference, PENNSYLVANIA - CRADLE OF A NATION, will be held in Valley Forge, PA. Maureen A. Taylor will speak on NEWS AND NOTICES: GENEALOGICAL GLEANINGS FROM COLONIAL NEWSPAPERS. Write for the National Genealogical Society '97 Brochure, 4527 17th Street North, Arlington, VA 2207-2399. Call NGS (703) 525-0050 or Fax (703) 525-0052.

Sept. 3-6 The Federation of Genealogical Societies' conference will be in Dallas, TX. Look for details in next month's newsletter.

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

GERMAN - Will meet at 10:00 a.m. Thursday, January 23, at Barbara Johnson's, 616 Camino Amigo, Danville.

SOUTHERN - Will meet at 10:00 a.m. Tuesday, January 14, at Frances Becker's, 3264 Eccelston Ave., Walnut Creek.

IRISH - Will meet at 10:00 a.m. Wednesday, February 12, at Patty Erickson's, 10 Ridge Pl., Pleasant Hill.

CALIFORNIA - Will meet with the Irish group.

MAC COMPUTER - Will meet at 10:00 a.m. Wednesday, January 22, at Barney Rubin's, 447 Woodbine Lane, Danville.

UNITED KINGDOM - No meetings until further notice. Needs a new chairman.

PUBLISHING - Meets when needed. If you would like help with a publishing project, contact Jane Steiner at 283-0867.

ROOTS USERS - Official Comsoft ROOTS III/IV users will meet in room AB, 7777 Norris Canyon Road, Tuesday following the general meeting. You may eat your lunch in the room.

MIDWESTERN - Will meet at 10:00 a.m. Thursday, February 6, at Fran Lloyd's, 210 Town & Country, Danville to discuss IL & IN.

INTERNET USERS - Will meet at 1:30 p.m. Thursday, January 23, at Jack and Barbara Johnson's, 616 Camino Amigo, Danville.

(KINKO'S Continued from page 43)

hours - lunch time and late afternoon. Just go in and explain what you want done; they will do their utmost to have you become one of their many satisfied customers.

The San Ramon Kinko's is located at 2131 Camino Ramon, just off Crow Canyon Road. The phone number is (510) 277-1478. For Internet fans, there is a Kinko's web site at "http://www.kinkos.com".



BOOK REVIEWS

by Dorothy Stanton

INDEX TO THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR SERVICE RECORDS Vol 1-4 by Virgil D. White, Waynesboro TN: National Historical Publishing Co. 1995. Pleasanton Library 973.4 White.

If you had ancestors in America during the era of the Revolutionary War, this 4-volume set of books might help you find their names more easily than searching the microfilm version at the Archives. The names in this index of the service records are from microfilm records Series M860. Described as a general index to the compiled military service records, it also includes some civilian entries, e.g. accountants, attorneys, J.P.s, constables, etc. The listings give state, rank, and specific military information.

GENERAL ABSTRACTS OF REVOLUTIONARY WAR PENSION FILES abstracted by Virgil D. White. Waynesboro TN: National Historical Publishing Co. 1990-92, 4 volumes. Santa Clara Historical & Genealogical Society at the Santa Clara Library.

Using microfilm publication M805, Selected Records from the Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty Land Warrant Application Files, Mr. White has extracted the basic genealogical information giving details most pertinent to family historians. As anyone knows who has tried to read the application files, this is a tremendous undertaking. Even if your ancestors did not file for a pension, you might find him in the index because he is mentioned in someone else's application

or he he might have given a deposition about another soldier's service or family situation.

RECORDS OF THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR WITH INDEX TO VIRGINIA SOLDIERS IN THE REV. WAR, 3rd Edition. Reprint Clearfield, 1991. Orig. publ. 1894 (index 1913) R973.3 This book is new on the shelves of the Heritage Collection at the Pleasant Hill (Central) Library.

THE GREAT AMERICAN WEB BOOK A Citizen's Guide to the Treasures of the U.S. Government on the World Wide Web by Raphael Sagalyn and the staff of Inside Information, New York: Random House, 1996. Softbound, 257 pp.

The U.S. government is one of the most useful sources of information on the Internet. This guide goes beyond the basic government sites and gives detailed information on some of the hidden "jewels" available and how to track them down.

Dept. of COMMERCE: a U.S. Gazetteer, the TIGER Mapping Service, Genealogy Information (a free-based, age-search census service), and National Interactive Weather Information Network (find out about storm warnings before you set out for that cemetery!)

Dept. of DEFENSE: the World War II - "Fifty Years Ago" Archives

<http://www.webbuild.com/~jbdavis/ww2.html> has first-person accounts, photos and stories. At the Dept. of EDUCATION, there is a site for learning about the Holocaust.

Department of INTERIOR: The U.S. Geologic Survey has a number of sites for maps. Also, the Civil War Soldiers and Sailors System (a multimedia demonstration) will be available soon. Check on it (CWSS) at

<http://www.cr.nps.gov/itd/welcome.htm>

The LIBRARY of CONGRESS and the SMITHSONIAN offer some of the richest treasures.

Numerous sidebars throughout the book offer sites grouped by subject matter, e.g. "Best sites to Explore U.S. History" and "Best Clickable Maps." The book is not only indexed but has an excellent glossary of Web terms and an alphabetical listing of Websites.

SRVGS NEWS



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

We have a busy year ahead! Thanks to the efforts of Frances Lloyd, Shirley Terry and Jack Johnson, the Danville Library has set aside 18 feet of shelf space for our VERY OWN Genealogy Reference collection. The Board has accepted their offer (see page 50) and approved the appointment of Irma Dotson, Dorothy Stanton and Jack Johnson to the Library Acquisition Committee. As your president is automatically a member of this committee, I have asked Shirley Terry to represent me on this committee. In the month ahead, they will be establishing guidelines for the selection and purchase of reference materials and proceeding to get them on the shelves.

Rules and Regulations for this society, although provided for in our by-laws, were never prepared. Carol Glover and Shirley Terry have been working with the Board over the past several months and have "fine-tuned" a set of rules and regulations that will guide the Board in making decisions.

The last in the series of member in-house genealogy classes will be held in February. The Board approved starting the education series again so look for announcements in March.

The coffee pots have been sold!

I hope that everyone is watching the weekly Ancestry Program on TV. The schedule is on page 52.

- Millie

LIBRARY TRIP

This month we will be visiting Sutro Library, one of the favorite haunts of local genealogists. Departure time is 9:00 a.m. from the rear parking lot of the Danville Lucky Market on Diablo Road and the upper parking lot of the Orchard Nursery in Lafayette. If you sign up for the trip at the meeting and find that you cannot go, please let Manny know so that people won't wait for you. If you find that you can go but have not signed up ahead of time, just be at the parking lot by 9:00.

MEMBERSHIP CLASS

The last of this series of membership classes will be held at 10:00 a.m. Thursday, February 17, at Carol Glover's, 333 Goshen Ct., San Ramon (829-7207). This class will be on newspapers, city directories and voter registration.

NEW MEMBERS



We have two new members this month:

JOHN H. LYLE, 260 Stone Valley Way, Alamo, CA 94507 (837-4489) is researching Lyle and Conover.

MARY JEAN MILNE, 7 Fairway Place, Pleasant Hill 94523 (798-2041).

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RESEARCHING IN THE LIVERMORE VALLEY

A recent article in the Tri-Valley Herald titled "Discover the Valley's Wealth of Family Histories" begins with the statement that "Now is the time - and the Livermore Valley the place - to start tracking down that distant ancestor supposedly crowned king somewhere or hanged for piracy in the 17th Century."

Many doors have been opened to aid the genealogist. One of these is the television series *Ancestors*, produced by the National Genealogy Society which has reportedly added more than 500 new telephone lines for the occasion. That's more than triple the number it added during the celebrated television adaption of 20 years ago of Alex Haley's landmark novel *Roots*.

The Church of the Latter Day Saints has opened many Family History Centers in the area. The one in Livermore will open its doors on Saturdays for the first time.

On December 10 the Livermore-Amador Genealogical Society launched a web page. Nearly 1,300 people have glanced at its name lists, catalogue of local cemeteries or index of publications. It also opens a gateway to a wealth of on-line resources.

One website offers a telephone directory for the entire United States. A novice with no instruction can find 100 listings of a rare surname within 20 minutes.

Other sites offer on-line tips for the newcomer. Many Internet resources list indexes of records and where to find them. The records still need to be tracked down the old-fashioned way.

Most purists prefer digging through court, census and church records, not only to avoid inaccuracies, but also to have more fun.

Since 1992 the Pleasanton Public Library has collaborated with the Livermore Amador genealogical Society to fill more than one stack with 800 books. Some are histories; others are indexes or how-to-guides. The library also features many periodicals.

Judy Person manages the collection for the group. She had one piece of advice for beginners: "Ask, before all your aunts die."

(Tri-Valley Tribune, Saturday, January 4, 1997, page A-7.)

THEY CAME IN SHIPS



● **MAYFLOWER:** Whether you are a descendent of those who ventured to America on the *Mayflower* or are simply interested in the rich history surrounding the passengers of this famous ship, you will find a treasure of all types of information here. It includes a long list of *Mayflower* and colony resources: wills; passenger lists, first-person account; historical information links, genealogical sites; common *Mayflower* myths; and a Frequently Asked Questions section. <http://members.aol.com/calebj/mayflower.html> (Netsurfer Digest, Vol. 2, No. 37)

● **COPIES OF FILBY'S SOURCES:** If you have found your ancestors in *Filby's Passenger & Immigration List Index*, you can now obtain a copy of the original document that Filby used for his index. The Burton Historical Collection at the Detroit Public Library contains all sources. To obtain a copy, cite the source number from Filby's index and enclose 20 cents per page to be copied, plus \$2.00 for handling. Write to: The Burton Collection, Detroit Public Library, 5201 Woodward Ave., Detroit, MI 48202. (SCGS Root Digger, October 1995.)

● **SAN FRANCISCO PASSENGER DEPARTURE LISTS** has been compiled by Peter E. Carr. Data was abstracted from the pages of the newspaper *Alta California* and is contained in four volumes. The collection lists over 13,000 names spanning less than two years (from September 1850 to June 1852). It is available from TCI Genealogical Resources, PO Box 15839, San Luis Obispo, CA 93406 for an annual subscription rate of \$20.00. Make checks payable to The Cuban Index. (CSGA Newsletter, Vol. 14, No. 11, November 1996.)

● **MARITIME MUSEUMS:** The San Francisco Maritime Museum at 860 Beach Street, San Francisco (415) 556-8177 has many historical documents, over 22,000 volumes and other articles pertaining to ships and ship builders. There are many indexes to San Francisco newspapers (maritime portions 1906-1984). Hours are Tues 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Wed-Fri 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Sat 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

The San Diego Maritime Museum has a "Master Ship Index" database. If you have a seafaring ancestor and know the ship's name, write (enclosing a small SASE) and ask for information on the ship and its history. This may yield dates, ports of call and more cities for an elusive relative. San Diego Maritime Museum, 1492 North Harbor Drive, San Diego, CA 92101. (SCGS Newsletter, Vol. 14, No. 11, November 1996.)

● **HOW TO RESEARCH IMMIGRATION RECORDS:** As a genealogist and family historian, you can request a search of Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) records under the Freedom of Information Act. This request can be in the form of a letter or you may submit form G-639. All requests for searches should include the person's name (with any alternate spellings), date of birth, and place of birth. Information about the person's entry into the United States (date, port, vessel) or his/her naturalization (date, court, certificate number) is also very helpful.

When making your request for information concerning family members who arrived prior to 1960, you should request a "manual search of the microfilm index" for your family member. Ask for copies of any and all records resulting from the search. In your request, ask for records pertaining to not only the person, but the "family of" the person. You need to provide as much information as you can.

If your family members came to the United States after 1924, specifically ask for a search for a Visa File. If their visa is found with the original attachments, ask to be provided with the necessary form to request a return of the attachments to the family. Several years ago, the INS had a regulation altered so that those who can certify or convince the INS that they are family members of an immigrant can have the original documents that were attached to visas returned to them as the rightful owners. The INS will make certified copies for their own use and will record who the originals were sent to.

Send your request to:

INS
Freedom of Information Act
425 Eye Street NW, Room 5304
Washington, D.C. 20536.

Be aware that there is a backlog, and allow six to nine months for a reply.

When you receive copies of the Passenger Manifests, all information regarding other families will be blocked out to protect their privacy. However, if you look at the top of the page, you will find the port of entry, the name of the vessel, and the date of arrival. From there you can go to the National Archives and retrieve the entire sheet, which is presented on microfilm.

If the people you are researching arrived after 1960, you can request a computer index search. and you can send your request to the local INS District Office serving the area where you live. Be sure to include "Attention FOIA/PA" in the address.

Northern California is in INS District 13, Appraisers Building, 630 Sansome Street, Room 232, San Francisco CA 94111-2280. (The Livermore Root Tracer, Vol. XIV, No. 3, Summer 1995.)

RESEARCHING ACROSS THE U S A

DUE TO A BROKEN SEWER LINE, SUTRO LIBRARY WILL BE CLOSED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE. BE SURE TO CALL BEFORE YOU PLAN A VISIT. IT SHOULD BE OPEN BEFORE THE SRVGS LIBRARY TRIP.

● CALIFORNIA: The VIEWING ROOM at the California State Library, 9th and N Street, is now open for use by appointment only. Call (916) 445-1719 for a 30 minute appointment. Available for viewing are Birth Records, 1956-1994; Marriage Records, 1960-1985; and Death Records, 1940-1994.
(Diablo Descendants, Vol. 12, No. 2, January 1997.)

● CALIFORNIA: SAN FRANCISCO PROBATE INDEX, 1880-1906, Partial Reconstruction is a new tool for those whose research has been handicapped by the destruction of records in the 1906 earthquake/fire. Kathleen Beals has compiled and indexed docket listings of reinstated probate files as discovered in the San Francisco Registers of Actions, Probate from 1906-1915.

The new book (239 pps. softbound) includes more than 10,000 names indexed from municipal reports, surviving probate receipt books, old newspapers and published probate abstracts. Indexing sources, such as executors, guardians and minors placed into guardianships. It may be ordered from the California Genealogical Library, P.O. Box 77105, San Francisco 94107. Cost is \$15 (California residents add \$1.25 sales tax) plus \$2.50 shipping and handling.
(The Live Oak, November/December 1996.)

● INDIANA: "Index to Admission Records, Indiana Soldiers' and Sailors' Childrens' Home, 1890-99," compiled by the Staff of the Indiana State Archives and Ruth Dorrel is the featured article in *The Hoosier Genealogist* Vol. 36, No. 3, Sept. 1966. Other fine articles include a report on the Indiana Newspaper Project Microfilms and a list of microfilms available for research. Obituaries of Presbyterian Ministers, 1888-1900; "Additions to Smith Library," and data from several separate family bibles.
(CSGA Newsletter, Vol. 14, No. 11, November 1996.)

● MICHIGAN: If some of your Michigan ancestors started out in southern Michigan, you may want to check out the following source that might have been unknown to you Ypsilanti Historical Museum and Archives, 220 North Huron St., Ypsilanti, MI 48197, (303) 482-4990/ They will help over the phone by checking their card index.
(Wine Press Newsletter, Vol. 20, No. 3, March 1994.)

● OHIO: The web site for the Ohio Historical Society Archives Reading Room is

<http://winslo.ohio.gov/ohshome>
(CSGA Newsletter, Vol. 14, No. 12, December 1996.)

● OHIO: E-mail requests may be sent to the Ohio Historical Society for a 20 minute search in the following indexes: vital-records, probate indexes, grantor-grantee indexes, census indexes and naturalization.

For each search (one name in one source) the fee is \$3.00. A statement will be sent following the search. The e-address is ohsref@winslo.ohio.gov; visit the Society's home page at <http://winslo.ohio.gov/ohswww/ohshome.html> or go directly to the reference information at winslo.ohio.ohswww/refmail.html
(CCC Diablo Descendants, Vol. 12, No. 1, January 1997.)

● PENNSYLVANIA: A stupendous two volume effort entitled, *Penn's Colony: Genealogical and Historical Materials Relating to the Settlement of Pennsylvania: Volume 2, The Welcome Claimants Proved, Disproved, and Doubtful with an Account of some of Their Descendants* by George E. McCracken, Ph.D, FASG, FAAR. The second volume of Professor McCracken's work fulfills the purpose of the Welcome Society in the collection and preservation of historic data relative to the settlement of Pennsylvania and particularly the city of Philadelphia.

The scope of this work is the genealogy of each passenger on the *Welcome* with William Penn as well as the evidence both pro and con for others considered as possible fellow travelers. In 1852 eight lists of *Welcome* passengers had been compiled and published, but many additional lists have since found their way into print.

The author located and examined twenty-six of these, data about each is detailed in the Introduction. In this section he also discusses the source for this work.

Of these the disproved is the longest list-representing 171 individuals, while the next largest group are those sixty who have been proved. 1970, Rpt. paper, \$44 plus \$4, Heritage Books, Inc. 1540-E Pointer Ridge Pl., Bowie, MD 20716.

(CSGA Newsletter, Vol. 14, No. 12, November 1996.)

● VIRGINIA: Until 1786, all children born in Virginia, regardless of religious affiliation, were required to be baptized in the Episcopal Church which was the state church. Parish registers giving names, date of birth, and names of parents are in the Virginia State Library Richmond.

(CSGA Newsletter, Vol. 14, No. 11, Nov. 1996.)

RESEARCH TIPS

- **ASSUMPTIONS:** If your research goes back to 1850 or earlier, the following assumptions may be of help in your research.
 - There are approximately three (or four) generations per century. The average age for men to marry was 24; they rarely married before 20. The average age for women to marry was 20 but rarely before 16.
 - Births usually occurred at two year intervals. Frequently, the first child was born a year after the marriage. As women aged, the intervals between births grew slightly. Child bearing ended around age 45.
 - Families and neighbors generally migrated together from their old homes. Women rarely traveled alone.
 - A man usually married a woman from his neighborhood. If a stranger shows up, check with the man's former home. Men often returned to their prior residence to find a wife.
 - If you can't find an old parent, chances are he "went West" with a son. If you have a male ancestor born circa 1840, strongly consider Civil War service.
 - If your ancestor had a virtue name (e.g. Patience, Silence, Prudence), consider a New England heritage. Children were often named for grandparents, both male and female. Frequently a middle name or even a first name was the mother's or grandmother's maiden name, especially if the name was repeated through several related families.
- (CSGA Newsletter, Vol. 14, No. 12, December 1996.)

- **SAME ADDRESS FOR BRIDE AND GROOM?** On marriage certificates the same address in a town is often given for both parties. This may not mean they were living together, or even living at the same place. Declaring the same address avoided paying for two sets of banns in different parishes.
- (CSGA Newsletter, vol. 14, No. 12, December 1996.)

- **FREE PATHFINDERS:** The Historical Genealogy Department of the Allen County Public Library, PO Box 2270, Ft. Wayne, IN 46801-2270 offers free copies of the following research pathfinders on ethnic genealogy: #1 French-Canadian & Acadia, #2 English and Welsh, #3 Scottish, #4 Irish, #6 German and #10 Swiss.
- (Diablo Descendants, Vol. 12, No. 2, January 1997.)

- **FIND THOSE WOMEN:** If you would like a copy of *Tracing the Women in Your Family, Twenty Methods*, by John L. Andrews, Jr., write for it with a \$2 donation in cash or stamps from Program, Old Darlington Chapter, SCGS, P.O. Box 175, Hartsville, SC 29551-0175/ Enclose 64 cents for postage and large envelope.
- (CSGA Newsletter, Vol. 14, No. 12, December 1996.)

- **WHAT DAY OF THE WEEK:** You know the full date, but want to know the day of the week on which the date fell. How can you figure it out? Here's the formula for any date for the years 1600 to 1999. Use the following values in the calculations:

January	8	1600's	4
February	6	1700's	2
March	6	1800's	0
April	2	1900's	5
May	4		
June	0	Sunday	1
July	2	Monday	2
August	5	Tuesday	3
Sept	1	Wednesday	4
October	3	Thursday	5
November	6	Friday	6
December	1	Saturday	1

Take the last two digits of the year, add one fourth of that in round numbers (ignore any fractions), and add the number of the date, add the value of the month, and the value of the century. Divide the total by 7. The remainder equals the day of the week.

(Diablo Descendants, Vol. 11, Nov. 12, December 1996.)

- **INDISPENSABLE DICTIONARY:** Genealogist soon discover that modern dictionaries do not always contain the definitions for the many confusing words found in church records, court records, land records, census records and mortality records. Neither do these dictionaries include the abbreviations, meanings of old occupations, explanations of the various ailments that afflicted and killed our ancestors, the geographical, foreign, historical, legal, relational, household, religious, colloquial, monetary and ethnic terms found in old records.

A to Zax: A Comprehensive Dictionary for Genealogists and Historians, 3rd edition, Hearthside Press, 5735A Telegraph Road, Alexandria, VA 22303, for \$17.95 postpaid. You may order by calling (703) 960-0086.

(CSGA Newsletter, Vol. 14, No. 11, November 1996.)

- **ABBREVIATIONS:** If you run into any of these initials on a death certificate or in a legal document, this is what they stand for:
- d.s.p - died without issue;
 - d.s.p.l. - died without legitimate issue;
 - d.s.p.m. - died without male issue;
 - d.s.p.m.s. - died without surviving male issue;
 - d.s.p.s. - died without surviving issue;
 - d.u.n.m. - died unmarried
 - d.v.p. - died in the lifetime of his mother.
- (CSGA Newsletter, Vol. 14, No. 11, Nov 1996)

LIBRARY AGREEMENT

At its January meeting the SRVGS Board voted to accept the following agreement with the Danville Library.

In response to your request that the San Ramon Valley Genealogical Society be provided space for genealogical materials at the Danville Library it is agreed that the Library will provide no more than 18 feet of shelf space as part of the adult reference collection.

The Library will initially catalog up to 35 books and subsequently 5-8 books yearly. The books will be included in the Library's computer database. Society members will provide and insert a special bookplate stating Society ownership on loan to the Danville Library.

The Society's collection will be housed with the Library Genealogical Reference collection, and once cataloged, the two will be inter-filed.

Books from the Society's collection will not be transferred to another branch of the Contra Costa County Library system without express agreement of the Society Board of Directors.

Acceptance and Processing of the Society's Genealogical Collection

The Branch Librarian will examine the collection for physical condition of the books. Items not in good physical condition may not be accepted by the Library. All materials will be designated Reference, unless they duplicate titles in the Library collection; with the agreement of the Society, duplicates will be designated Circulating and will be shelved with the Library's circulating collection.

Acquisition and Maintenance

In order to build a coherent collection between the Library genealogy collection and the Society collection, and to avoid duplication, it will be essential to coordinate acquisition of new materials.

The Society will submit to the Branch Librarian all titles being considered for purchase. The Branch Librarian will review the titles being considered and report to the Society any duplication of the Library's collection. The Library may also suggest titles for purchase by the Society. Materials purchased by the Society will be given to the Branch Librarian for processing and cataloging, after attaching the ownership/loan bookplate and any other Society bookplates. These items will be the property of the Society and become part of the long term loan collection.

The Branch Librarian may remove items from the collection for poor condition or for space considerations. The Society will be consulted in determining which books to weed. Any book removed for any reason will be returned to the Society.

Until all the Society materials are cataloged and accessible on the Library public catalog, the Society will maintain a list of their collection for the Library to photocopy and provide for library users.

The Library will utilize existing methods to keep the materials secure from damage, loss or theft. However, the library will not be responsible for replacing any items that are damaged, lost or stolen.

This arrangement can be terminated at any time by written notification to either the Library or the Genealogical Society. The collection of Society materials will be returned to the Society.

ANCESTORS SERIES

ANCESTORS is a series of ten 30-minute programs hosted by Jim and Terry Willard, amateur genealogists and former high school teachers, who introduce the topic of each episode.

Each episode has two components, a "mini-documentary" and a "how-to" segment, with the exception of the tenth episode, *Leaving a Legacy*, which has three mini-documentaries and no how-to segment.

Ancestors goes on location to visit with family historians of various social, economic and ethnic backgrounds. The purpose is to find out why they began a search for family history, and how the search has impacted their lives.

Each mini-documentary is followed by an instructional conversation between the hosts and various genealogical experts. These friendly, informative conversations are designed to help beginning genealogists get started.

Each episode ends with Jim and Terry reminding viewers of research tips and referring them to local resources for further assistance in starting the search for ancestors.

● Episode One: Getting Started

The series' first episode explores the simple and universal question, "Who am I?" with tips on how to start a search for roots, including how to fill out a pedigree chart, and why successful research means starting with yourself.

● Episode Two: Looking at Home

In the second episode, viewers learn how to start at home, in some of the most unlikely places, to find clues to their ancestors and pieces of the past. It includes a brief discussion of how to handle and store fragile items, like old photographs, and an introduction to the Family Group Record.

● Episode Three: Gathering Family Stories

Mining the memories of older family members is the subject of episode three. Tips for interviewing family members include how to help older family members "open up," how to ask thought-provoking questions, and how to record the interviews.

● Episode Four: The Paper Trail

Ancestors' "come alive" through the records they left behind. In the fourth episode, viewers will learn how to search records. A special emphasis is given to compiled vs. original records and basic research strategies.

● Episode Five: Libraries and Archives

This episode takes the fear out of library and archive research. Jim and Terry go on location to the largest genealogical library in the world, the Family History Library in Salt Lake City, where staff and patrons offer their professional tips for a successful research trip.

● Episode Six: Census and Military Records

Episode six shows how census and military records can be a rich source of biographical information.

● Episode Seven: African American Research

Episode seven addresses some of the challenges inherent in African American research. Although it is often difficult, research strategies specific to these ethnic challenges can yield rich and interesting information.

● Episode Eight: Your Medical Heritage

The life-saving potential of family medical pedigrees is the subject of the eighth episode. Viewers will see how a medical pedigree differs from a standard pedigree chart, with discussion about issues that naturally arise for individuals who seek to learn about their genetic histories.

● Episode Nine: High-Tech Help

New technologies, including computers, have revolutionized the family history process. In episode nine viewers see how a computer can be a genealogist's best friend.

● Episode Ten: Leaving a Legacy

This final episode explores the provocative question: "One hundred years from now, will anyone know who you were?"

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Ancestors will be shown on KQED Channel 9 Sunday January 5, 1997 at 10:30 a.m. and will be shown each Sunday through February 2. Dates for the later episodes have not yet been scheduled.

The program will also be aired on Saturday, January 18, on KTEH (Channel 54) at 5:00 p.m.

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The *Genealogical Research Directory*, a key reference work for worldwide family history research is now on CD-ROM. For additional information or orders contact Jan Jennings, 3324 Crail Way, Glendale, CA 91206-1107. The e-mail address is "grdxxx@com.ay".

(CSGA Newsletter, Vol. 14, No. 11, Nov. 1996)

ORPHAN BRIGADE KIN ORGANIZES

Descendants of members of the Orphan Brigade (1st Kentucky Brigade, CSA) are forming a nonprofit organization "The Orphan Brigade Kinfolks."

The purpose of the group is to preserve and honor the memory of one of the most celebrated units of fighting men in the Civil War. They also propose to collect and to make public all physical evidence available to identify the soldiers in the Brigade. They will collect photographs and any other exciting information concerning the group.

If you are a lineal or collateral descendant of a member of the Orphan Brigade, contact Porter Harned, 1012 King Arthur Lane, Louisville, KY 40222. (Odom Family Tree, Vol. VII, No. 1 February/March 1996.)

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

The old mountaineer, about to die, called his sons together and said: "Yew kin share 'n share alike in my propity - but promise tew burry me atween me tew b'loved wife-mates, Millie 'n Tillie. 'N so's yew won't fergit, think o' this:

Tillie was fair and as wild as the wind.
She gave your ol' pa great delight.
And though Millie was plain,
Her heart was pure gold.
She worked like a mule day 'n night.
Since the Lord has seen fit,
To give two sich wives,
To a sinful and worthless hillbilly,
Plant me smack in between them,
With this one regard -
Could you tilt me a little toward Tillie?

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FIRST CLASS MAIL